



Environmental Field Studies Unit



There are notes attached to this presentation



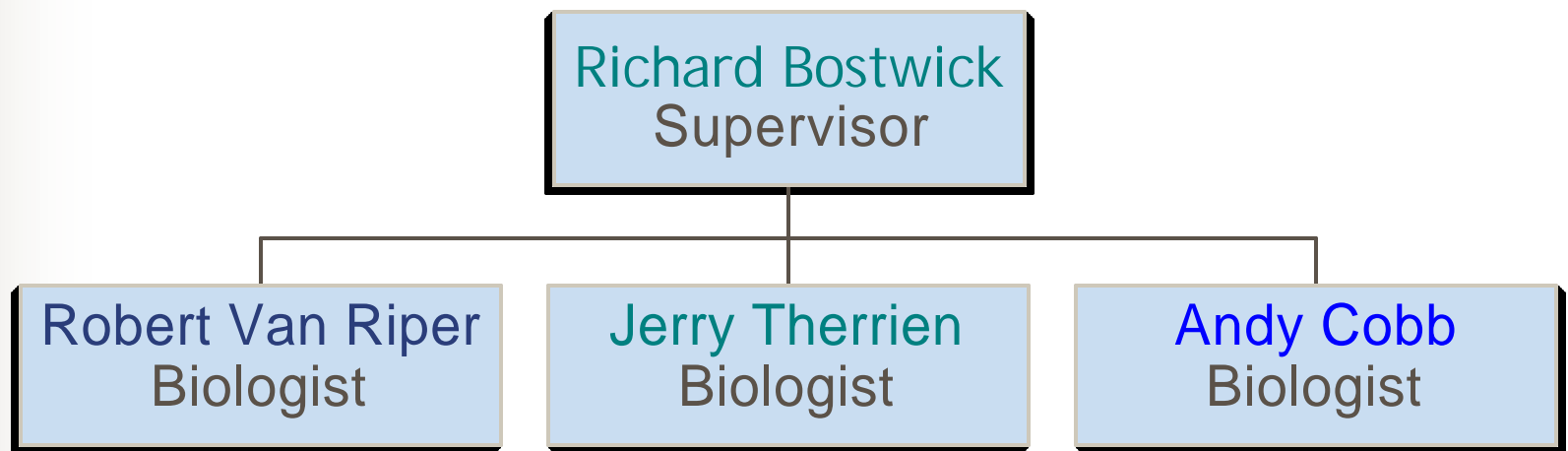
Environmental Office Mission Statement

The Environmental Office leads the Department in proactively integrating transportation & environmental objectives & innovations as the Department plans, develops, operates, and maintains Maine's transportation system



Field Studies Unit Organization Chart

Small Group, Simple Organization





What we do:

Natural Resource Identification

- § **Wetlands**
- § **Coastal resources**
- § **Waterways/ fisheries**
- § **Rare plants natural features**
- § **Fish passage**
- § **Animal Passage**
- § **Provide information and guidance during the planning stage of projects**



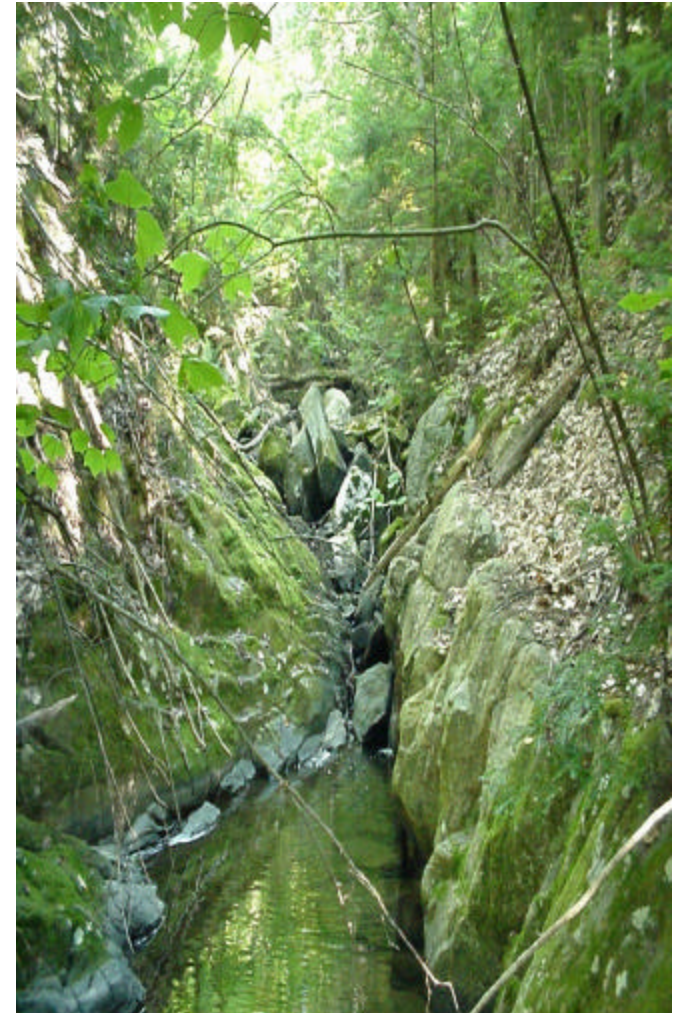
We Identify

■ Wetlands



We Identify

■ Streams



We do wildlife and rare plant investigations



Newborn Fawn



Furbish Lousewort

We look into

- Fish Passage Issues



We Identify

- Coastal resources





Wetland description:

- § Wetlands
- 1. Identify project areas
- 2. Take soil samples
- 3. Identify Plants
- 4. Map with GPS satellite receiver if needed

By state and federal law, a regulated wetland needs to have:

- **Soils that show signs of water inundation**
- **Plants adapted to wet or hydric conditions**
- **Hydrology or re-occurring source of water**

Coastal resources:



- § Coastal
- 1. Review vegetation/invertebrate components
- 2. Solicit information from resource agencies
- 3. Map with GPS satellite receiver if needed

Waterways and Fisheries

§ Streams and fisheries

1. Review stream crossings with an eye to maintaining passage through road structures
2. Advise on passage issues
3. Monitor fish that are present to determine if fish pass through a structure.





We need to identify sensitive resources to avoid adversely affecting Maine's Natural Environment

Pin 4770/0

Map of the Pelton Hill area showing the proposed Pelton Hill Wind Farm. The map includes roads like Myrtle St, Kennison, Puddledoc, Pelton Hill, Kams Hill, Hallock, Western Ave, Brann Ave, and Foye Rd. It also shows water bodies like Pelton Hill and Kams Hill. A red rectangle highlights the "Approximate Area of Interest". A legend on the right lists various features: Engle Essential Habitat, Animal Species (BCD), No disturbance - Animal (BCD), Aquatic Animal Species (BCD), Inland Wetland Sites and Waterbody Habit, Deer Widespread Areas - (NWRP), Hydrological Features, Roads (Dual Highway, Primary Highway, Secondary Highway, Light Duty Road, Underground Road, Trail), Lakes and Ponds, Rivers, Streams, Road Network, Town, and Coast. A compass rose is also present.

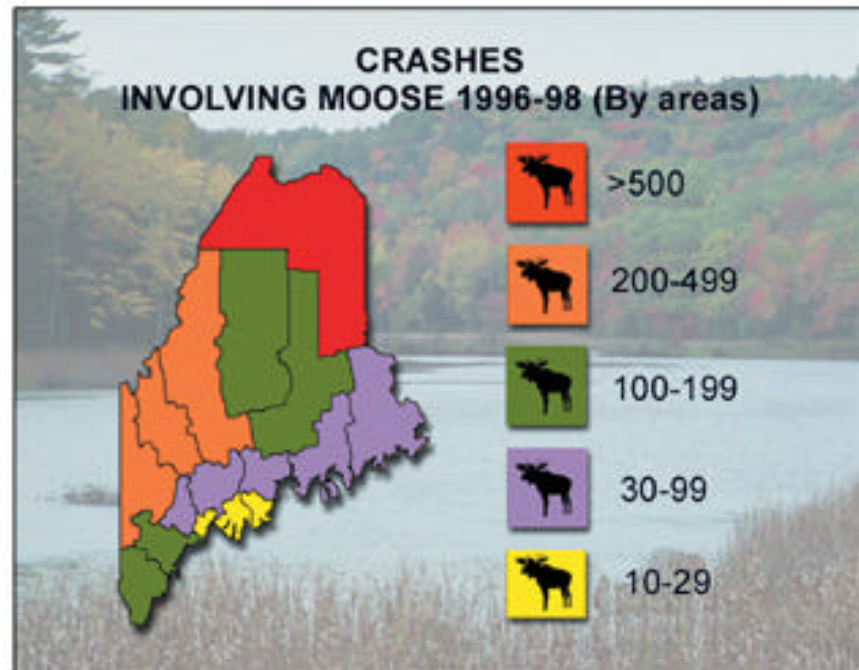
0.5 0 0.5 1 Miles

Biologist Notes

Please refer to comments provided in the attached letter

We also do some planning work- safety

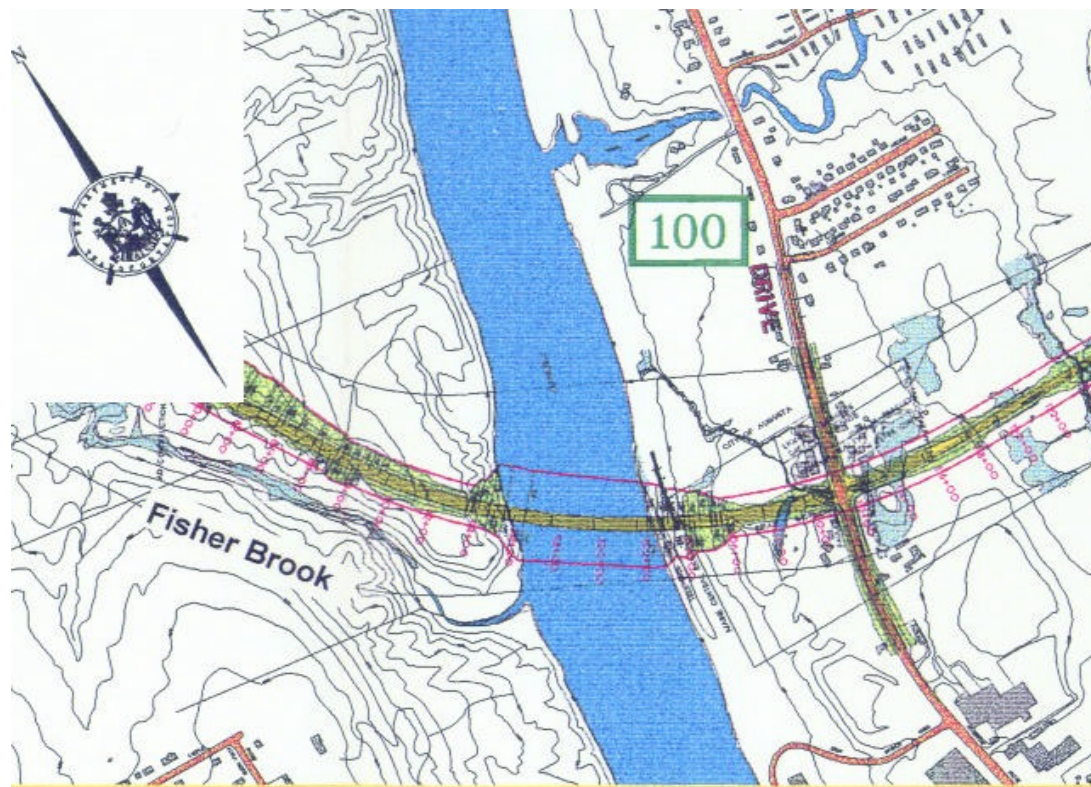
- Animal Vehicle
- interaction



We also do some planning work

NEPA studies

■ Major Road Studies



We have been involved in joint reviews with Planning and Bridge Management to provide them with environmental information for 6 year and BTIP Plans

OES Form				
BRGNO	TOWN	Bridge Name	Field Review Date	
<input type="text" value="0002"/>	<input type="text" value="CHINA"/>	<input type="text" value="HAMMOND"/>	<input type="text"/>	
Feature Under	Feature Over			
<input type="text" value="WEST BRANCH SHEEP"/>	<input type="text" value="DIRIGO ROAD"/>			
WATER QUALITY				
<u>SURFACE WATER</u>	Flowing	Ponded	Coastal	None
CLASSIFICATION FLOWING (Pick all that apply)	Outstanding River Segment		AA/A	Priority Water Body
LAKE or PONDED (Pick all that apply)	Outstanding	Sensitive	Poor/Restorable	Other
Water Supply	Yes	Priority Waterbody	Stormwater List	Water Quality Comments
<input type="text" value="Salmon River Watershed"/>				
WETLANDS	Coastal	Fresh water	None	
<u>PREDICTED PERMIT LEVEL</u>				
NEPA	EAEIS	CE	None	
Permit-DEP	Individual	Other		
ACOE	Individual	Other		
LURC	N/A	Individual	Other	
Critical Habitat Permit				
<u>HISTORIC</u>				
OTHER	Canoe Route	Boat Access	Historic Comments	
Public Park	Yes	No		
Boat Access	Yes	No		
Historic Bridge	Yes	No		
Historic District	Yes	No		
Archeology	Yes	No		
Known Hazardous Site	Yes	Unknown		
Wildlife Habitat	Yes	No		
Critical Area	Yes	No		
Natural Area Site	Yes	No		

We implement the fish passage manual in concert with the Permits and Cultural Services Unit

<http://www.state.me.us/mdot/finalfishpassage5.pdf>

Maine Department of Transportation

FISH PASSAGE POLICY and DESIGN GUIDE



Prepared by
Maine Department of Transportation

In Cooperation With:
Maine Atlantic Salmon Commission
Maine Department of Environmental Protection
Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
Maine Department of Marine Resources
Maine Land Use Regulation Commission
National Marine Fisheries Service
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

We do non-routine monitoring projects such as the Augusta Third Bridge Mussel surveys

- Dive work



Belfast USFWS Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG)

We also
aid in
planning
of other
transportation
projects

